



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-23

June 18, 2015

<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>

Editor:
Helen Billing



In This Bulletin

- **Announcements** – Toronto FHC Closed during Pan-Am Games, Extending a Film Currently Here
- **What's New** – FamilySearch (US Public Records, Utah Uintah Browse collection, US/Canada Border Crossings); Ancestry (Australia Newspaper Notices, updates to New York Passenger Lists, Missouri Marriages & Pennsylvania Deaths); FindMyPast (Gibraltar St. Andrews Kirk records, Prisoner of War Records, additional London burials); Irish Family History Foundation (a few more Belfast baptisms)
- **The Forum** – One new question, some comments on last week's question
- **Were You Aware...** – What have we lost?

Announcements

Toronto FHC Closed during Pan-Am Games

Based on the fact that no-one knows what Toronto traffic will be like during the Pan-Am Games and the secondary fact that Eglinton Road is a mess at the moment, our directors believe that it is prudent to close the FHC during the Games. Those of you with films that are due to be returned at about that time will be given a couple of extra weeks to view those films.

Extending a Film Currently Here

Toronto FHC volunteers would appreciate knowing if you renew a film that is currently here. This way it can be labelled appropriately.

What's New

FamilySearch has updated or added to the following collections:

- Updates to US Public Records 1970-2009 (875 million records)
- Utah Uintah Records – Several browse only collections
- Vermont St Albans Canadian Border Crossings 1895-1924 (6 million records!) See [John D Reid's](#) blog for explanation of the 6 million records.
- South Dakota School Records 1879-1970 (4.7 million records)

Ancestry's updates or additions include:

- Australia Newspaper Vital Notices 1851-1997 – A new browse-only collection with only 26,000 records. Remember that Australia's [TROVE](#) has 17,327,824 newspaper pages consisting of 171,730,388 articles available to search.
- Missouri Marriage Records 1805-1992 – updated (nearly six million records)
- Pennsylvania Death Certificates 1906-1963 – updated (seven million records)
- New York Passenger Lists 1820-1957 – updated to nearly 83 million records
- Swedish Death Records 1840-1860 & 1878-1942 – updated to 5.8 million records

FindMyPast has added the following datasets for this Friday's release:

- Gibraltar, St. Andrew's Kirk Baptisms, Marriage, Burials & Congregation Records (a few thousand records)
- Additional records for Greater London Burial Index (25,000 records for West Norwood) This index now has over 1.1 million names from Anglican and non-conformist parishes.
- British Newspapers – 2.8 million new articles added, bringing the total to over 124 million articles (Not available at Family History Centres)

- Prisoner of War Records 1715-1945 - (71,000 new Napoleonic POW records) The records not only include military personnel, but also civilians, diplomats, missionaries and merchant seamen.

See [FindMyPast Record Sets](#) for the complete description of the new records.

The [Irish Family History Foundation](#) has added a few records for Belfast in the [County Antrim](#). They have added 9,000 baptismal records from Sacred Heart Belfast, St. Mary's Belfast and St. Vincent de Paul Belfast from 1890 to 1930.

The Forum:

Questions.

Q1/2015/23. English Burial Records.

I was looking at the London burial records on Ancestry this week and found two burial records for one relative. The first was a perfectly normal burial record for the late 1700s:

Buried in February 1785 – 15th Robert Billing child

The second record was more interesting:

Burials in the Month of February: 1785						
			£ 18	£ 15	£ 18	
2 Sarah Hall	C: D:D	6	GP1	8	26	
3 Ann Williams	W: S:D	16	GP1	2	1	
4 Jane Ward	W: N:D					
5 Ambrose Gifford	M: D:D	6	GP1	8	26	
5 Rev of W ^m Jones			GP2	2	?	
6 Susannah Overall	C: S:D	1	LP2	16	6	
9 Mary Robins	W: S:D	16	GP2	3	1	
9 Rebecca Collibine	C: S:D	1	LP1	1	6	
10 Sarah Salmon	W: S:D	16	GP1	2	1	
11 Thomas Raw	M: S:D	16	GP1	2	1	
13 James Mason	M: S:D	16	GP2	3	1	
15 Charlotte Smith	W: S:D	16	NP	1	1	
15 Robert Billing D:S	C: S:D	6	LP2	16	26	
16 Meills Swinburn	C: S:D	1	LP1	1	6	
16 Sarah Newton	W: N:D					
16 Mary Jennings	C: N:D					
17 Mary Tokelove D:S	W: S:D	6	GP2	3	26	
17 Eliza Martin	C: D:D	6	GP1	4	26	

I have managed to decipher most of the codes but I am still puzzled about the D:S: after Robert Billing's name. (At that time ":" meant abbreviation.) The front of one of the burial books from St. Mary, Newington was helpful and the columns are divided as described in the first two rows below:

DAY	Name (+DS)	M/W/C	DUES	RECTOR	BELLS	WARDEN	CLERK
		man.woman.child	SD, ND, DD	Amount paid (£, s, d)	LB1, LB2, GB1, GB2	Amount Paid	Amount Paid
			Standard Dues, No Dues, Double? Dues		Little Bells, Great Bells		

Does anyone have any suggestions what the D:S: after the name means or what the abbreviations for the dues are? If S:D: in the dues column means standard dues, the amounts are not standard among those people. And the D:D: dues are not double the amounts. Any suggestions here?

Suggestions:

Q1/2015/22. Germany.

Attached (last week) is a partial Family Register from Mannheim, Germany that I found on Ancestry. My question is: if the Father is noted as Peter Bernhard Freiseng (first person on list) how come his son (third person mentioned) is Peter Bernhardt Freiseng? I am not sure if the 't' at the end is a mistake or if it is part of some custom?

Last week's image of a Mannheim Family Register had the following transcription by Ancestry:

Peter Bernhard Freiseng, Born in Mittelbexbach, birth date: 15 Apr 1822, Death Date: 1 Oct 1874
 Anna Maria (maiden name Muller), Born in Mannheim, Birth Date: 23 Jun 1817, Died 24 May 1898
 Johann Peter Bernhardt, Son, Born 28 Nov 1843, Died 17 Dec 1892

There were several more pages that seem to apply to this family. The following two had the names of six more children with their birth dates. The next page was another family register for the same family with similar but not identical information. The last two pages were undecipherable (by me) pages of writing.

Peter Freyseng, head of household

Anna Marie Müller, wife, born 26 Jun 1817 in Mannheim, died 24 May 1898

Josef, son, 29 Dec 1843 in Bäcker, died 17 Dec 1892 (I actually think that he is a **baker**, not born in Bäcker)

Luise, daughter, born 8 Nov 1854 in Mannheim

It is suggestive to note the differences in the two family registers. The surname is spelled differently. The birth and death dates are slightly different. Johann Peter Bernhardt has become Josef; there were no other Josef's in the family. Aloisia Maria has become Luise, a more understandable change.

Ken Monk, with his experience in looking at German records, suggests that there are several opportunities here for transcription errors and that the researcher should look at the original records for the town. He suggests that even the "original" family registers could have errors in them and seeing the differences in the two family registers above, I certainly agree with him. Ken thinks that the town name could be Mittelbiberach but I have had another look at the image and, using the book in the FHC library called **Decipher Germanic Records** by Edna Bentz, I agree with the transcription on Ancestry of Mittelbexbach. The original Catholic Church Records for Mittelbexbach can be found [here](#). (Mittelbiberach is more than 200 km from Mannheim; Mittelbexbach is about 100 km.) Unfortunately there are many churches in Mannheim so it will be difficult to find Johann Peter Bernhardt aka Josef. Looking at the Bernhardt/Bernhard difference, note that in these records there are over 8,000 Bernhard's and only 87 Bernhardt's. Ken says that he would write the names exactly as written, until he had further proof of the spelling.

Were You Aware...

Battle of Waterloo Resource at FindMyPast

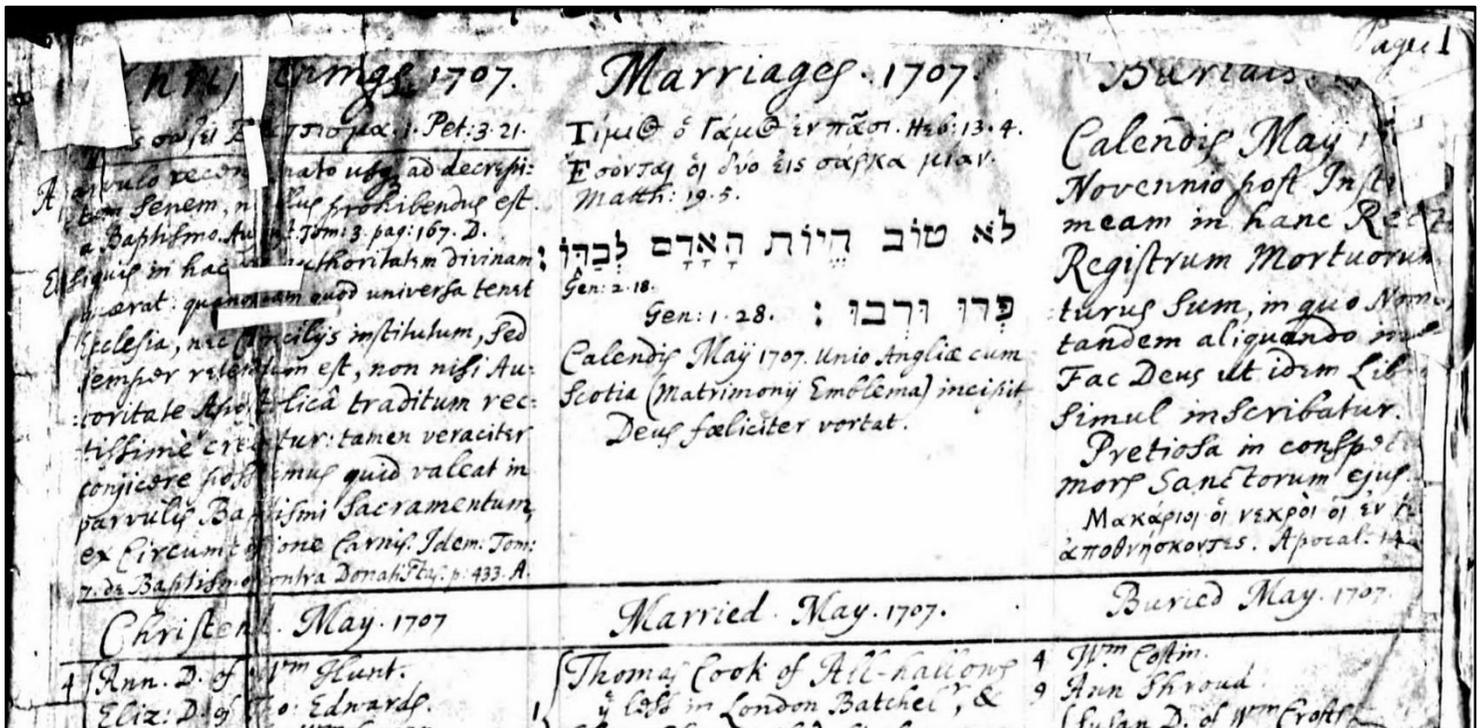
As today is the 200th anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo, FindMyPast has created an interesting resource [here](#) dedicated to the Battle. They are also offering a one month Britain subscription for £1 to enable researchers to look at all British records. You will have to sign up with a credit card, etc. but do not forget to cancel your subscription before the month is up if you do not wish to continue at the higher cost.

What Have We Lost?

I would be the first to admit how wonderful having records online is, but there are two things that I think are sad. The first is the tendency to assume that most records are online. They are not, not nearly, and if you explore the Family History Library Catalogue you will see that there are literally millions of films with a quite remarkable span of diverse records for thousands of places. Local archives have even more records that have not been filmed and probably never will be.

The second is that by going directly to the record for a particular person you may miss some of the little extras that you may have found be looking at a film. Ten or so years ago, when I spent many happy hours searching for ancestors and other relatives in the censuses on film I seemed to get a feel for the neighbourhood that I do not get now. I walked the streets of London where cloth dyeing was a major business, where gun making and its attendant trades like polishing were big, and where children of ten were folding envelopes and their older siblings were "lining papers", making lines to write on. I came across funny entries. In the 1861 census, I found the "Ex King of Bonny", William Pepple, and discovered that Bonny was an island in the Niger Delta and that William was a real person, who eventually brought Christianity to his people. Another time I happened upon an 1851 census taker who obviously did not believe the occupations of the five young ladies living in the house; next to the occupation of each he wrote in bold - FICTITIOUS. This week I was browsing through some London records on Ancestry and found the example in the question above. My husband found the interesting example of Greek, Hebrew and Latin comments below, in the beginning of the 1707 St. Mary Newington parish register that he was looking at. The page was forwarded to someone we thought would find it interesting and he had the following observations:

"It tells you what verses were most important for baptisms and marriages (1 Peter at the top left is about being saved through baptism and Hebrews 13:4 and Matthew 19:5 are about two becoming one flesh, Gen 2:18 it is not good for man to be alone, Gen 1:28 says be fruitful and multiply). What is also interesting is that none are entire sentences or verses, but just key excerpts (e.g. Gen 1:28 is just 2 words of a 22-word verse). The writing is very well done, particularly the Hebrew. It makes me wonder if this is someone who is trying to practice their studies or some such, because as you said it would be unusual for a rector to have that level of education and also access to the text at that point in time. Also, I was looking at the Latin in the first column on the left and realized that it was an excerpt from something - there is a page number. Looking more closely, it is an excerpt from Augustine's book On Baptism, Against the Donatists. Anyhow, a very interesting document: makes me wonder what we can learn about the knowledge of the clergy and liturgical practices of various times from looking at these records".



Listing of New Films at the Toronto FHC has been discontinued.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours:

(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen & Leslie pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Helen)

Thursday 9:30am to noon (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Don & Roberta)

Saturday, 2nd & 4th of each month, 10am to 1pm (Grace & Charlene) For Chinese research

CLOSED JULY 14th to 23rd for the Pan-Am Games.

For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).

[FamilySearch - Search](#)

[FamilySearch - IGI](#)

[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

[FamilySearch Catalogue](#)

[FamilySearch Film Ordering](#)

[Steve Archer IGI Batch Numbers](#)

*If you decide that you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, reply to this email with the word "**Delete**" in the subject line.*

Toronto Family History Centre
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
24 Ferrand Drive (Don Mills & Eglinton) M3V 3V4 Phone: 416-422-5480 Ext. 111
Email: Toronto_FHC "at" bellnet "dot" ca